

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A composition comprising a human IL-3 (hIL-3) variant having increased affinity, relative to native hIL-3, for the high-affinity IL-3 receptor, wherein the variations from native hIL-3 comprise the replacement of one or both of the residues Asp<sup>101</sup> and Lys<sup>116</sup> by other amino acids.